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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 003672

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/25/2007

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [CU](#) [IT](#) [HUMAN RIGHTS](#)

SUBJECT: ITALY WILL GET OUT THE VOTE IN ECOSOC ON CHR CUBA  
RESOLUTION

REF: SECSTATE 139472

CLASSIFIED BY: A/POL P. THIEDE FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

1. (C) ON JULY 23, IN SEPARATE MEETINGS AT THE MFA, POLOFF  
PRESENTED REFTTEL DEMARCHE TO NICOLO' GORETTI DE FLAMINI AND  
EMANUELE PIGNATELLI, RESPECTIVELY OFFICE DIRECTORS FOR  
CENTRAL AMERICA AND FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. PIGNATELLI CONFIRMED  
THE GOI'S INTENTION TO VOTE FOR THE RESOLUTION AGAIN AND TO  
CONFIDENTIAL

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LOBBY OTHERS TO SUPPORT IT AS WELL. THE GOI'S LEADERSHIP  
WOULD BE IMPORTANT, PIGNATELLI IMPLIED, SINCE IT WAS  
REPRESENTING THE EU PRESIDENCY DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF DENMARK  
FROM ECOSOC.

2. (C) PIGNATELLI CONTINUED THAT THE GOI PREFERRED  
"RECIPROCAL ENCOURAGEMENT" OF, NOT CONFRONTATION WITH, STATES  
WITH GOVERNANCE SHORTCOMINGS. THE GOC HAD "MADE SOME  
IMPROVEMENTS BUT NEEDS TO GO FURTHER." PIGNATELLI CITED  
BETTER CONDITIONS OF DETENTION AS AN EXAMPLE. (HOWEVER,  
GORETTI AGREED WITH THE DEMARCHE THAT THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL  
PRISONERS HAS INCREASED AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAS  
DETERIORATED.)

3. (C) PIGNATELLI EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT PROCEDURAL  
ISSUES AT ECOSOC. HE ASKED WHETHER THE USG WOULD CALL FOR A  
VOTE ON THE SEPARATE RESOLUTION ON RACISM. HE HOPED THAT WE  
WOULD DO SO, STATING THAT THE GOI WAS AS CONCERNED BY THE  
RACISM RESOLUTION AS THE USG WAS BY THE CUBA ONE. ASKED WHY  
THE GOI PREFERRED THAT WE TAKE THE LEAD ON THE RACISM  
RESOLUTION, PIGNATELLI ASSERTED THAT WE HAD CALLED FOR THE  
VOTE IN THE UNCHR, SO IT WAS ONLY LOGICAL THAT WE SHOULD DO  
SO AGAIN. HE ALSO ASKED WHETHER THE USG WOULD CALL FOR A  
VOTE ON THE CUBA RESOLUTION, IF FOR ANY REASON PERU DID NOT  
DO SO. POLOFF REPLIED THAT SHE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THIS  
BUT UNDERScoreD THAT THE USG WAS FULLY COMMITTED TO THE  
PASSAGE OF THE CUBA RESOLUTION.  
SEMBLER

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